



The Secretary General

14.FL-0351E/T.H.

Brussels, 15 July 2014.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The 123rd/124th Sessions of the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Council focused on, among other things, the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). The WTO Director General, Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, gave a keynote speech and, during the Sessions, the WCO Mercator Programme to support TFA implementation was launched, indicating the importance that the global Customs community attaches to the smooth and efficient implementation of the TFA.

I am pleased to inform you that the Second Meeting of the WCO Working Group on the TFA (TFAWG) will take place at the WCO Headquarters (30, rue du Marché, 1210 Brussels), **from Monday 29 September at 9h30 to Tuesday 30 September 2014 at 18h00.**

The Meeting will bring together WCO Members, represented by Customs administrations and relevant ministries, as well as Trade negotiators from Geneva, donors and other relevant stakeholders such as other global-standard-setting bodies and the private sector.

The Meeting will be addressing the relationship between the TFA and the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement). The draft Agenda further includes panel discussions on the WCO Mercator Programme and the Information Technology implications when implementing the TFA. The Meeting will also address the latest developments at the WTO Preparatory Committee and Members' implementation practices concerning some of the TFA provisions. The draft Agenda is attached to this letter.

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For further information or clarification, your staff should contact Ms. Milena Budimirovic (e-mail: milena.budimirovic@wcoomd.org) or Mr. Theo Hesselink (e-mail: theo.hesselink@wcoomd.org) of the WCO's Facilitation Sub-Directorate.

I would be grateful if you could advise the Secretariat, **by 5 September 2014** at the latest, of the members of your delegation who will attend this important Second Meeting of the TFAWG. **To that end, please use the following login: WGATFob and password: TFAwg\$0914** to register on the WCO's Website (www.wcoomd.org). The same login will further provide you access to the meeting documents.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kunio Mikuriya', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kunio Mikuriya.